IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A method of transmitting a ~~Method of transmission of~~ chain of database ~~managing~~ management messages between a management centre and a plurality of distributed subscriber databases, wherein each management message member of this chain ~~comprising~~ comprises a chain header, a chain identifier, ~~allowing the simultaneous transmission of several chains~~ and a chain index ~~allowing to identify the message in the chain, wherein this method comprises the step of adding to each~~, the method comprising the steps of: (a) providing with each management message a conditional block ~~which determines if~~ effective for determining whether this current message is to be processed without references to all or part of other messages members of the chain, and in the negative event, ~~this conditional block comprises~~ effective for defining conditions linked to ~~the~~ a previous processing of all or part of other messages members of the chain; and (b) transmitting the chain of database management messages between a management centre and a plurality of distributed subscriber databases.

2. (currently amended) ~~Method of transmission~~ A method according to claim 1, wherein the method comprises the step of determining, according to the conditional block ~~comprises for~~ if at least one message of the chain ~~if this message~~ can, ~~or~~ must, or must not have been processed first.

3. (currently amended) ~~Method of transmission~~ A method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein ~~it~~ the method comprises the steps of:

managing a table in the subscriber database containing an information representing ~~the~~ a processing state of each member of the chain,

~~and to update~~ updating said table every time that a member of the chain is processed, and

~~to reset~~ resetting said table either on request of the managing centre~~,~~ or after a predefined time.

4. (currently amended) ~~Method of transmission~~ A method according to claim 1~~,~~ wherein the subscriber database is connected to a subscriber unit and ~~in that~~ wherein it comprises the step of memorising the management messages in a memory of the subscriber unit and ~~to~~ of presenting them on request to the subscriber database.

5. (currently amended) ~~Method of transmission~~ A method according to claim 4, wherein ~~it~~ the method comprises the steps of memorising incoming messages in series ~~the incoming messages~~, each incoming message causing ~~the~~ an ~~increase~~ increment of a stack pointer of incoming messages, and ~~to~~ of allowing a direct access ~~of~~ to the messages requested by the subscriber database.

6. (currently amended) ~~Method of transmission~~ A method according to claim 4, wherein the memory ~~in~~ of the subscriber unit is configured as a serial buffer memory ~~buffer~~ having a fixed length.

7. (currently amended) ~~Method of transmission~~ A method according to claim 4, wherein ~~it~~ the method comprises the steps of receiving in the subscriber database, a message member of a chain, and ~~to~~ of ~~allocate~~ allocating in the subscriber unit, the memory necessary for receiving all the members of this chain.

8. (currently amended) ~~Method of transmission~~ A method according to claim 4, wherein ~~it~~ the method comprises the steps of requesting the ~~composition by the~~ subscriber module to compose ~~of a managing~~ a management message describing its software and hardware resources and ~~in~~ of sending said message~~,~~ either to the subscriber database or to the management centre.

9. (currently amended) ~~Method of transmission~~ A method according to claim 8, wherein ~~this~~ the request is transmitted, either by the management centre under the form of a management message, or by the subscriber database under the form of an instruction ~~by the 2~~ on an I/O line.

10. (currently amended) ~~Transmission~~ A system for transmitting a ~~of~~ chain of ~~managing~~ database management messages, ~~this system~~ comprising:

(a) a management centre, ~~and~~

(b) a plurality of subscriber~~'s~~ units, wherein each subscriber unit ~~comprising~~ comprises a subscriber database located in a security module, and

(c) a message chain comprising a plurality of message members, wherein each message member of the chain ~~comprising~~ comprises a header, a chain identifier ~~allowing the simultaneous transmission of several chains~~, ~~and~~ a chain index ~~allowing to identify the message in the chain, wherein it includes~~, and a conditional block ~~which determines if~~ effective for determining whether the current message ~~has~~ is to be processed without reference to all or part of the other messages member of the chain, and in the negative event, ~~this conditional block comprises~~ effective for defining conditions ~~linked~~ linking the processing of the current message member to the ~~previous~~ processing of all or part of other messages member of the chain.

11. (currently amended) ~~Transmission~~ A system ~~of chain of messages~~ according to claim 10, wherein the conditional block ~~and in the negative event, this conditional block~~ comprises a condition determining ~~if~~ whether all or part of the messages member of the chain can, ~~or~~ must, or must not have been processed first.

12. (currently amended) ~~Transmission~~ A system ~~of chain of messages~~ according to claims 10 ~~and 11~~, wherein the security module includes a message manager able to store in a memory ~~the state of the processing~~ an information representing a processing state of each message of the chain, and ~~that~~ wherein it includes ~~comparison means of~~ means for comparing this state with the conditions ~~mentioned~~ expressed in the conditional block of the message currently processed.

13. (currently amended) ~~Transmission~~ A system ~~of chain of messages~~ according to claim 10, wherein the subscriber unit includes a memory ~~of~~ for messages, wherein each incoming message ~~causing~~ causes the displacement of an input pointer in the memory, and wherein the security module includes means to read and process these messages.

14. (currently amended) ~~Transmission~~ A system ~~of chain of messages~~ according to claim 12, wherein the subscriber unit includes a connection line towards the security module and wherein it includes means to determine the size of the memory according to ~~the~~ instructions received from the security module, and ~~to~~ means ~~to reply~~ for replying to the security module ~~with the composition of a managing message~~ by composing and sending a management message to this security module.

15. (currently amended) ~~Transmission~~ A system ~~of chain of messages~~ according to claim 12, wherein the subscriber unit includes a selection module ~~(SW) allowing~~ to connect ~~the~~ a ~~separator of~~ management messages separator, ~~the~~ a processing center of the

subscriber module, the security module and the memory, and means to recognize the management messages destined only to the processing center and to forward~~ing by the selection module~~ these messages ~~only towards~~ to the processing center.